

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01656 211250Z

41

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) W

----- 044527

R 211041Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1918

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1656

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IS

SUBJ: OIL FIRES AT ABU RODEIS

REF: TEL AVIV 292

1. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT GOI HAS CONTRACTED WITH RED ADAIR'S HOUSTON-BASED OIL FIRE FIGHTING FIRM TO EXTINGUISH FIRES AT THREE OFFSHORE WELL AT ABU RODEIS. SIX-MAN CREW, HEADED BY ADAIR'S SON, ARRIVED ISRAEL MARCH 4 AND EXPECTS TO FINISH JOB WITHIN THREE WEEKS. CREW SAID THAT THEY WERE BEING PAID 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS PLUS EXPENSES FOR JOB. LARGE AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING 42 FOOT MOTOR BOAT, HAS ALREADY BEEN AIRLIFTED FROM US TO VICINITY ABU RODEIS.

2. ADAIR SAID THAT GOI HAD APPROACHED HIS FATHER'S FIRM IN LATE JANUARY ABOUT PUTTING OUT FIRE BUT, BEFORE CONTRACT WAS ACCEPTED, ADAIR INSISTED THAT JOB BE CLEARED WITH EGYPT. " ITALIAN PETROLEUM COMPANY" (WHICH BELIEVE TO BE ENI) SUBSEQUENTLY APPROACHED EGYPTIANS AND OBTAINED THEIR APPROVAL. ADAIR SAID THAT FIRE WAS NOT PARTICULARLY SERIOUS FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW BUT THAT ISRAELIS DID NOT HAVE EXPERIENCE IN PUTTING OUT OIL FIRES. PRESSURE AT WELL HEAD WAS 70 POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH, WHICH HE CONSIDERED RELATIVELY LOW.

3. COMMENT. ADAIR'S PRESENCE IN ISRAEL HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED IN PRESS AND WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT BOTH PARTIES

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ARE TRYING TO KEEP STORY OUT OF NEWS SINCE ADAIR IS TRAVELING

UNDER AN ALIAS.
KEATING

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRESS COMMENTS, OIL FIELDS, FIRES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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